N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Rural Health

> 311 Ashe Avenue Raleigh, NC 27606 Phone: 919.527.6440 • Fax: 919.733.8300

http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/orh

North Carolina Office of Rural Health

2020 Profile (Data from State Fiscal Year 2020 and current as of 6/30/2020)

Grant Facts

\$33.9M

Available grant funding (federal, state, philanthropic)

217 FTEs

Full-time equivalent employees supported in local communities

216

Contracts to support communities

Direct Services

398,154 Patients served

84%

Of ORH funding is spent directly on communities

\$60.94

Average annual contribution by ORH per patient



72% Patients with

well controlled diabetes, as evidenced by A1c levels < 9



67% Patients with well controlled hypertension, as evidenced by blood pressure levels < 140/90



60%

Patients screened for obesity through Body Mass Index (BMI) testing



71% Patients screened for tobacco cessation and treatment

Overview

In 1973, the North Carolina Office of Rural Health (ORH) became the first State Office of Rural Health in the nation. Created to focus on the needs of rural and underserved communities, ORH continues to empower communities and populations by developing strategies to improve quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for all. While ORH does not provide direct care, its programs support numerous health care safety net organizations throughout the state. Continued support and recurring funding for ORH strengthened North Carolina's health care safety net infrastructure to ensure that all of the state's medically vulnerable residents (Uninsured, Underinsured, Medicare and Medicaid) have access to affordable and appropriate high quality primary care. It is a conservative estimate that the State's primary care safety net system serves 1.1 million vulnerable residents.

Programs:



NC Rural Hospital Program

Support operational improvement projects for the benefit of all critical access hospitals and eligible small rural hospitals



NC Medication Assistance Program

Provide free and lowcost medications donated by pharmaceutical manufacturers to patients who cannot afford them



NC Statewide Telepsychiatry Program

Support psychiatric evaluation of patients through videoconferencing in emergency departments and community

settings



NC Analytics & Innovations Program

Support data analytics, shortage designations, and pioneering efforts to improve health



Placement and **HPSA Services**

Recruit providers to health professional shortage areas



NC Rural **Health Centers**

Support state designated rural health centers that serve the entire community



NC Community Health Grants

Support the primary care safety net system with increasing access to health care for vulnerable populations



NC Farmworker Health Program

Support medical, dental and educational services for members of the North Carolina agricultural labor force and their families



Information **Technology Program**

Provide technical assistance to improve the use of Electronic Health Record (EHR) Systems and the use of the health information exchange

Return On Investment and Economic Impact

ORH Expenditures \$26,964,798

6 411

Generates

additional jobs

from the economic

impact

Created Economic Impact \$25,754,381



\$2,081,994

Generated in state and local

taxes which

goes back into

the local and state economy **Total Impact**

\$52,719,179



\$23,887,123



In employee compensation impacted from the grant

Each ORH grant dollar has a total economic impact

\$1.96



Economic impact is estimated to be much greater because improved health outcomes can lead to fewer missed work days, reduced health care costs, and reduced premature morbidity and mortality. Some expenses such as out of state purchases, overhead, and rollover payments are not captured for ROI and economic impact.





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